

PIONEER DAY: SEPTEMBER 3, 1928

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Among the historical documents collected by Lois T. (Norton) Curtis is a newspaper clipping entitled "Pioneer Day Calls Good Crowd," which was published in The Wayne Independent. Written in pencil at the top of this clipping is the date, "Sept 3, 1928," which is the date on which Pioneer Day was celebrated in that year. It is from a xerographic copy of the clipping that was owned by Lois Curtis that S. Robert Powell typed the copy that is given below.

Pioneer Day Calls Good Crowd

For a number of years "Pioneer" day has been successfully conducted at the Clinton Center Baptist church. One of the moving spirits in this unique and delightful observance was the late E. M. Peck. His widow was again present this year and is deeply interested in every feature of the program. It was rainy on Monday in the morning, but in spite of the threatening weather there was a large attendance to partake of the bountiful dinner which the ladies had provided in the dining room of the church. As they have done before they served a delightful menu to those who came to have part in the exercises. A nominal charge is made to defray expenses and the large patronage each year shows how successful they have been in this part of the day's features.

Clinton township was settled over a hundred years ago by natives of New England many of whom drove their ox teams thru the woods from Connecticut and Massachusetts. They took up lands, built for themselves homes, reared their families, established their churches and schools and became leading citizens of Wayne county. They were mostly Baptists by early training and in their surroundings carried out the training of their family history. As a consequence there is a church at Clinton Center, South Clinton, one in the northern part of the township and one at Aldenville, of that denomination. The edifice in which this program is carried out reminds one of the New England architecture such as one finds today in the rural sections of Connecticut and Massachusetts, built and occupied by Congregationalists or Baptists.